

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:153
ANSWERED ON:24.07.2002
INFANT MORTALITY RATE
SUNIL KHAN;T.T.V. DHINAKARAN

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of infant mortality rate at present in the country gender-wise;
- (b) whether the infant mortality rate in the States of Andhra Pradesh, Orissa, Bihar, Jharkhand and Assam is higher in comparison to the national rate;
- (c) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (d) the measures being taken by the Government to bring down the mortality rate in the country particularly in these States; and
- (e) the present mortality rate in the country as compared to developed countries, country-wise?

Answer

MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SHATRUGHAN SINHA)

(a) to (e) : A statement is laid on the table of the Lok Sabha.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 153 FOR ANSWER ON 24.7.2002

As per the Sample Registration system, infant mortality rate (IMR) in 1999, the latest year for which gender-wise IMR is available was 70 per thousand live births. In that year the IMR for males and females was 69.8 and 70.8 respectively.

The IMR in 2000 was estimated to be 68 per thousand live births. In that year Orissa, Jharkhand and Assam recorded an infant mortality rate of 96, 70 and 75 respectively. In the same year, infant mortality rate in Andhra Pradesh and Bihar was 65 and 62 respectively.

As a part of the Reproductive and Child Health (RCH) Programme immunization, facilities for prevention of deaths due to acute respiratory infections and dehydration due to diarrhoea and essential newborn care are being provided. Towards improving the nutritional status of infants and children, promotion of exclusive breastfeeding and appropriate complementary feeding practices is being undertaken. Programmes for prophylaxis against Vitamin 'A' deficiency and iron deficiency anaemia are under implementation. To improve outreach of these services, several schemes including organization of RCH Camps, RCH Outreach Scheme, Dai Training Programme are under implementation. A comparison of the infant mortality rate in the country with that in other regions of the world as per the UNFPA publication, the State of the World Population 2001 is given is annexed.

ANNEXURE

COMPARISON OF IMR

IMR

World	55
India	65
More developed regions	8
Less developed regions	59
Least developed countries	92

(More Developed Regions: North America, Japan, Europe, Australia, New Zealand)

(Less Developed Regions: Africa, Latin America and Caribbean, Asia {excluding Japan}
and Melanesia, Micronesia and Polynesia)

(Least Developed Countries: according to standard United Nation Designation)

(Source: The State of World Population 2001 - UNFPA)